Development of Model Criteria for Groundwater Monitoring Related to Oil and Gas Activities





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Purpose for Today's Meeting

Present an overview of the proposed process for developing model criteria.

Gather stakeholder and public perspectives, ideas, and concerns.



SB 4 Water Board Requirements

- Implement regulatory program for groundwater monitoring of oil and gas-related activities
 - By July 2015: Develop "model criteria" for groundwater monitoring for regional and well operator required
 - By January 2016: Implement regional groundwater monitoring program

SWRCB activities funded through fees collected by DOGGR from oil and gas operations



SB 4 Development of Model Criteria

- Model criteria is being developed in consultation with:
 - Public Stakeholders
 - Technical Experts
 - DOGGR
- Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) to provide written recommendations, in consultation with other experts, to State Water Board staff to develop model criteria
- U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) to collect and analyze data and information to help State Water Board staff develop model criteria



SB 4 Development of Model Criteria (cont.)

Model criteria covers:

- Operator-required groundwater monitoring near wells subject to well stimulation
- Regional-scale monitoring to be implemented by State Water Board

Model Criteria to include:

- Methods for monitoring
- Chemical analyses
- Frequency and duration of monitoring
- Areas to monitor



Stakeholder Interaction Timeline

- August 2014 Public stakeholder meetings to solicit comment on the approach (Bakersfield & LA)
- Late Summer/Fall 2014 Public meeting for LLNL (experts) to hear from stakeholders
- Late 2014 Public meeting for LLNL to hear feedback and input on their initial draft
- January 2015 Board workshop to hear from stakeholders on State Water Board staff proposal for model criteria



Stakeholder Interaction Timeline (cont.)

- Early 2015 Written public comment period model criteria for public review
- By July, 1 2015 State Water Board adoption meeting for final model criteria
- January 1, 2016 State Water Board begins regional groundwater monitoring



Additional Information

- State Water Board Web Site http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/gro undwater/sb4.shtml
- DOGGR Web Site http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dog/Pages/WellStimulation .aspx#Item1
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